

Directory

home > morristown national historical park

Member Search...

MORRISTOWN NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

30 Washington Pl * Morristown * NJ 07960

M-Sun 9:30am-5pm with seasonal changes; please call or check the website before your visit

☎ 973-539-2016 ext. 210

✉ Click for Email

📍 Click for Map

🌐 Click for Website

The winter of 1779-80, the most severe of the century, brought great suffering to the Continental Army at Morristown. Despite this and many other adversities, General Washington demonstrated his leadership by holding the army together as an effective fighting force.

The national park consists of four non-contiguous areas including Washington's Headquarters, Fort Nonsense, Jockey Hollow, and the New Jersey Brigade Area with the Cross Estate and Gardens. The park features two original structures, the Ford Mansion in Morristown and the Wick House in Jockey Hollow. There are approximately 27 miles of walking trails in Jockey Hollow.

Ford Mansion at Washington's Headquarters

The Washington's Headquarters area consists of two primary structures situated on 16 acres: the historic Ford Mansion and the Washington's Headquarters Museum. The Ford Mansion is an original 18th-century structure and was built 1772-74. It is furnished in the style of the period. The mansion was General Washington's military headquarters for six months during the winter of 1779-80. Guided tours of the Ford Mansion are offered. For tour times, please call or check the website before your visit. The historic house has limited accessibility to individuals with mobility impairments. Pick up your ticket in the museum. Tour size is limited to 20 visitors per tour.

Washington's Headquarters Museum

The museum features an introductory video and four exhibit galleries, including the interactive "Discovery History Center." The park's private partner, the Washington Association of New Jersey, supports Morristown NHP by raising funds to maintain the exhibit galleries and other projects. The museum offers a gift shop and restrooms, and serves as the visitor contact point to begin the Ford Mansion tours.

Jockey Hollow Visitor Center

The Jockey Hollow Visitor Center serves as the central area for visitor contact in the Jockey Hollow area of the park. It offers a staffed visitor reception desk and a gift shop and restrooms. An introductory video is offered. Also presented are a furnished full-scale soldier hut display, information on the natural aspects of the park, and a large wall mural to aid the visitor's visualization of the 1779-1780 encampment. Visit the circa 1750 Wick House and its kitchen garden. Many visitors hike up to the replica soldier huts.

Fort Nonsense

This area of the park was the site of an earthwork fortification built by Washington's troops in the spring of 1777 on what was then called Kinney's Hill. Its purpose was to protect the main roads leading north and south and the military storehouses in Morristown. Due to later folklore, the site acquired the name "Fort Nonsense". Site interpretation includes seven wayside exhibits, a vista clearing overlooking Morristown, and a small monument. Picnic tables are available. Fort Nonsense is open daily, 9 a.m. until sunset. There is no staff, amenities, water, or restroom facilities at Fort Nonsense.

Of Special Note:

- ◆ Visit the Jockey Hollow Encampment site, watch the movie, visit the Wick House and kitchen garden, hike to the Soldiers' huts
- ◆ Hike or drive up to Fort Nonsense for the views and outline of the former fort
- ◆ Tour the Ford Mansion, home to General Washington and Alexander Hamilton, and the museum
- ◆ Opening February 17, 2018 the new, interactive "Discover History Center" at the Washington Headquarters Museum-family friendly
- ◆ The Photography Exhibition on the Ford Mansion as a residence by internationally recognized artist and speaker Xiomaro on view 2/17/18-12/28/18
- ◆ Written up in Huffington Post, "Top 25 Reasons to Visit Northern New Jersey Now"

Hours and Fees:

Contact the park for hours of operation which change seasonally.

Park Hours

Days/Hours change seasonally for the Jockey Hollow Visitors Center and the Washington Headquarters Museum/Ford Mansion. Please consult the website before you go.

Please note that the grounds of the entire park will remain open 7 days per week, along with the restroom facilities at the Jockey Hollow area, per park hours listed at: www.nps.gov/morr



Ford Mansion in winter





Washington's Headquarters Museum/Ford Mansion Unit: **Free**

Jockey Hollow: **Free**

Winter Visitor Services Hours

Morristown, NJ – Beginning on **January 1, 2018**, the Jockey Hollow Visitor Center and Wick House visitor facilities will be closed to the public. The visitor center and Wick House will reopen on Saturday, February 17, 2018.

During that same period (**January 1 through February 16, 2018**) the Washington's Headquarters Museum and the Ford Mansion will be open on Saturdays only.

Please note that the park's grounds, parking areas, tour road, 27 miles of hiking trails, and restroom facilities at the Jockey Hollow area will remain open to the public, seven days a week, per park hours listed at <https://www.nps.gov/morr/planyourvisit/hours.htm> .